

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS

A Look at Media Bias

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman

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Dear friends and colleagues,

Please see below for some of the latest news and commentary on bias in the media. As chairman of the House Media Fairness Caucus, I compile this biweekly newsletter to provide a look at media bias and its impact on the public's news consumption and trust in news outlets. Included this week is an excerpt from an interview about the Caucus and bias and a couple bias examples.

- Lamar Smith

Interview with House Media Fairness Caucus founder Rep. Lamar Smith

From Sinclair's Bottom Line with Boris Epshteyn...

"...BORIS: Do you think that some in the media who have their own shows and put themselves out as members of the press and reporting the news but are really pushing opinion should be labeling their information as "opinion" or "commentary?"

REP. SMITH: Exactly, I think that's one of the biggest things that could occur when reforming and stopping media bias.

You have some media that try and don't succeed and you have other media that don't even try, but I think more and more, the American people are catching onto that and that's why their credibility is at an all-time low.

Boris's Bottom Line: We're living in an age of pervasive media bias. Congress has to figure out if there's something they can do about it.

In the meantime, media outlets themselves have to determine whether they should be labeling content that is opinion and commentary as exactly that.

White House claims 'media hysteria' after redheaded staffer misidentified as Russian spy

From Stephen Nelson in the Washington Examiner...

"A reporter for the news outlet Mic tweeted Tuesday that Maria Butina, the woman arrested Sunday on charges of conspiracy against the U.S., visited the Oval Office last year during a visit by Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov.... The supposed Butina actually was Cari Lutkins from the White House National Security Council, the Mic reporter said after the original claim [with photo including Lutkins, not Butina] was widely circulated."

Americans Support Trump's Immigration Policies

From a speech by Congressman Lamar Smith...

"When it comes to immigration policies, a recent poll shows that the American people are far closer to President Trump than to the liberal media.

The results of a Harvard-Harris poll by Mark Penn, a former Hillary Clinton strategist, came up with surprising results considering what you've heard from the media.

When asked "Do you think that people who make it across the border illegally should be allowed to stay in the country or sent home?", 64 percent said they should be sent home.

When asked "Do you think we need stricter or looser enforcement of our immigration laws?", 70 percent said stricter...

And 69 percent said the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency should not be abolished."